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PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Chang, et al.

EXAMINER: Ehichioya, Fred I.

SERIAL NO.: 09/925,397

ART UNIT: 2172

FILED: August 9, 2001

DKT NO: YOR9-2001-0287
(8728-514)

ON: CONCEPT-BASED SYSTEM FOR REPRESENTING AND
PROCESSING MULTIMEDIA OBJECTS WITH ARBITRARY
CONSTRAINTS

RECEIVED

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

MAR 22 2004
Technology Center 2100

RULE 131 DECLARATION

Yuan-Chi Chang, Chung-Sheng Li, Apostol I. Natsev, John R. Smith declare as follows:

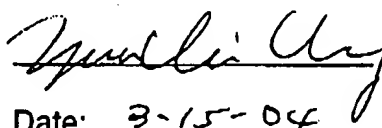
1. We are the inventors of the above-referenced application, and we have reviewed the Office Action dated December 16, 2003, and the reference cited as prior art, "MediaNet: A multimedia information network for knowledge representation," appearing in *Conference on Internet Multimedia Management Systems*, presented on November 6, 2000, and authored by A. B. Benitz, Jr. R. Smith, and S.-F. Chang (hereafter MediaNet reference).

2. Prior to November 6, 2000, we have conceived the claimed invention of this application. A Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/246,052 was filed on, November 6, 2000, with the USPTO. John R. Smith is the common inventor to both the present application and the Provisional '052 application. The '052 application as filed is attached herewith as Exhibit A. The '052 application evidences our conception of the claimed invention prior to November 6, 2002, the date of the MediaNet reference.

3. The subject matter of the current application was not abandoned, suppressed, or concealed from the date of conception prior to November 6, 2000 to the date of constructive reduction to practice, as evidenced by the filing of the current application on August 9, 2001, within 1 year of the filing of the '052 Provisional Patent Application.

I HEREBY DECLARE that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 U.S. Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.


Yuan-Chi Chang


Date: 3-15-04

Chung-Sheng Li

Date: _____

Apostol Ivanov Natsev


Date: 3-15-04

John R. Smith

Date: _____